

Message Text

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TAGS: MOPS, PBOR, SA

SUBJ: PRESS REACTION: GENEVA MIDDLE EAST CONFERENCE

SUMMARY: FIRDAY'S PRESS SHOWED MIXED ATTITUDES TOWARDS
THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE. PESSIMISM REIGNS AFTER
OPENING SESSION.

1. AL UKAZ (DEC. 21) "KISSINGER'S EXPRESSION OF RELIEF
AND OPTIMISM REGARDING THE FUTURE OF THE MIDDLE EAST MAY
NOT BE MORE THAN A MERE PROTOCOL PROCEDURE JUSTIFIED BY
THE CIRCUMSTANCES. THE LATEST STATEMENTS OF GOLDA MEIR...
PRECISELY REITERATE THE ISRAELI POSITION SINCE 1967.
...THE PEACE CONFERENCE WILL FACE MINOR ISSUES WHICH
SHOULD NOT FIND THEIR WAY INTO THE PALACE OF NATIONS IN
GENEVA." AL MADINA "STARRING AT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE...
WOULD BE KISSINGER, WHOSE SMILE CONCEALS A SENSE OF
BEING THE PEACEMAKER, THE MAN WHO MAKES THE IMPOSSIBLE
POSSIBLE, AND ENEMITY PEACE."

2. ON SATURDAY AFTER THE OPENING SESSION AL MADINA
COMMENTED "ISRAEL SEEKS TO TRANSFORM THE CONFERENCE INTO
AN
ARENA FOR MANEUVERING WHERE SHE CAN CONCENTRATE ON
LATERAL ISSUES IN ORDER TO AVOID THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSES
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OF THE CONFERENCE, NAMELY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE U.N.

RESOLUTIONS."

3. AL UKAZ, IN EVEN STRONGER LANGUAGE UNDER THE FRONT PAGE BANNERLINE "NO PEACE WITHOUT FORCE," COMMENTS "DR. KISSINGER'S SPEECH AT THE SO-CALLED PEACE CONFERENCE IN GENEVA FLOATS BETWEEN NEGATIVISM AND POSITIVISM. HE SPECULATED ABOUT THE ROAD TO PEACE AND SIMULTANEOUSLY CALLED FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RES. 242, WHEREAS THE U.S. AND ITS EMISSARY KNOW WELL THE ROAD TO PEACE. THE ISLUELI FOREIGN MINISTER STILL DECLARES THAT ISRAEL IS UNWILLING TO WITHDRAW TO THE PRE-JUNE 1967 LINES WHICH MEANS THAT ISRAELI MANEUVERS WILL CONTINUE UNTIL OUR FORBEARANCE IS EXHAUSTED AND THAT WE WILL HAVE TO RESUME FIGHTING ANEW. WILL AMERICA AND RUSSIA ASSUME A SERIOUS POSITION WITH ISRAEL FOR THE SAKE OF PEACE, OR WILL THEIR STAND REMAIN AT THE SAME LEVEL OF THE U.N. RESOLUTIONS?"

4. AL UKAZ IN SECOND COMMENTARY STATED "THE M.E. PEACE CONFERENCE HAS STARTED AMIDST SPECULATION THAT THE PARLEY WILL SOON FIND ITSELF IN A SWIRL AND A LABRYINTH THAT WILL LEAD TO DEADLOCK. ...THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PEACE IN THE M.E. (IS) TO A GREAT EXTENT CONTINGENT UPON ISRAELI'S READINESS TO IMPLEMENT U.N. RESOLUTIONS AND COOPERATE WITH OTHER PARTIES FOR PRESERVATION OF WORLD PEACE."

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